



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

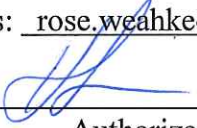
Public Health Service

Phoenix Area Indian Health Service
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Re: Attestation of Support for State of
Arizona's Application
State Innovation Models: Round 2 of
Funding for Test Assistance

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Authorized Organizational Representative

Section 1: Introduction – Attestation of Support

The Phoenix Area Indian Health Service (IHS) hereby attests to its commitment to and active engagement in Arizona's application for Test Funding for the State Innovation Models (SIM) award. The Phoenix Area IHS believes that Medicaid, the State's largest insurer, is an important lever for driving delivery transformation. In Arizona, the AHCCCS program has been a leader in health innovation and health policy. With steady and strong leadership, AHCCCS has successfully promoted numerous initiatives

to transform the healthcare industry. The program's success has also relied on its roots as a public/private partnership. All of these factors, in addition to serving a critical mission, are reasons why the Phoenix Area IHS supported Medicaid restoration and expansion in Arizona.

The Phoenix Area IHS is equally committed to actively striving toward health delivery transformation to yield better health outcomes and lower costs. Accordingly the Phoenix Area IHS believes it is essential to collaborate with the State of Arizona, both with AHCCCS and the Arizona Department of Health Services, to effectively improve population health and promote system reform from a payment and delivery perspective.

Section 2: Describe your Organization and its role in system reform currently

- *Explain briefly about the type of organization.*

The Phoenix Area IHS Office in Phoenix, Arizona, oversees the delivery of health care services to approximately 140,000 Native American users in the tri-state area of Arizona, Nevada and Utah.

Services are comprehensive and range from primary care (inpatient & outpatient) to tertiary care and specialty services. In addition, dental services; behavioral health; public health nursing; health education; and environmental health services are provided. The services are provided through nine Service Units and two Youth Regional Treatment Centers. The Phoenix Area works closely with the forty Tribes within the tri-state area in providing health care services.

There are three urban programs, Reno, Salt Lake City, and Phoenix, within the Area; and two tribal organizations that the PAIHS works with closely, the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona and the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada.

The Phoenix Area IHS serves a significant number of Medicaid patients, particularly in Arizona. Medicaid patients who seek services from Phoenix Area IHS Service Units in Arizona represent approximately 40% of all patients receiving services at those Service Units.

- *Describe your organization's current efforts to engage in system reform and what you see as current challenges.*

The Phoenix Area IHS serves as the lead agency in the National IHS Hospital Consortium to improve Quality and Safety in hospitals within the Phoenix Area

IHS and across the country. The Phoenix Area IHS developed a reporting system with novel methods of measuring safety in and readmissions to IHS hospitals across the country. This has been implemented and is now supporting national reporting to CMS with participation from 24 of the 28 IHS hospitals.

The Phoenix Area IHS Service Units have implemented the Improving Patient Care (IPC) Initiative. The aim is to transform the Indian health care system by developing high-performing, innovative health care teams to improve the quality of and access to care. New standards for health care delivery will result in improved health and wellness of the American Indian and Alaska Native people by utilizing a patient-centered medical home model. This will also strengthen the positive relationships among the health care system, the facility care team, the individual, their family, their community, and their Tribe.

The Phoenix Area IHS has also strengthened its commitment to focus on Medicaid enrollment since October 1, 2014 in Arizona in anticipation of Medicaid Restoration and Expansion, with the overall goal of increasing access to quality health care. From October 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014, Phoenix Area IHS Service Units within Arizona have reached approximately 7,860 Native Americans and assisted these individuals with applications for Medicaid. The Phoenix Area IHS has reached approximately 60% of its overall target for Medicaid assistance/enrollment in Arizona.

- *Briefly describe your participation in any other statewide efforts, such as supporting the Governor's Medicaid Restoration Plan, the State Health Improvement Plan (are you on the Steering Committee), Arizona Forward, Raise Your Voice, or other initiatives to improve population health.*

The Phoenix Area IHS participates in the AHCCCS / IHS Area Directors and Chief Medical Officers Meeting, the ADHS / IHS Area Directors Meeting, Arizona Health-e Connection, Arizona Tribal Health Insurance Marketplace Workgroup, and other collaborative efforts.

Section 3: Conclusion: Arizona's SIM Grant Application

Arizona has an active and engaged health care sector that provides quality care to Arizonans across the State. As we supported restoration and expansion of Medicaid in Arizona, we did so with the recognition that this added coverage could be leveraged to support initiatives in payment reform and health care delivery transformation. As the

Phoenix Area IHS has embarked on its journey to health reform, we have recognized that there is a need to connect to other initiatives within the State. Moreover, we have come to acknowledge that efforts like addressing super-utilizers, inappropriate use of the emergency department, recidivism in the criminal justice system, care coordination for Arizona's Native American population, among others, cannot be successful if we are not connected and working as one system of care.

The Phoenix Area IHS firmly believes that this proposal breaks down the silos that currently exist between physical and behavioral health, between providers and payers, and reconnects all of us to the consumers and family members that we all strive to serve. The work that the Phoenix Area IHS is doing is furthered by the SIM process and we are committed to that process and to a positive result.